

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An image processing apparatus, comprising:  
an extracting unit to generate a binary image from image data and to extract fragments having continuous pixels;  
a determining unit to determine whether or not an image of a page is an image primary drawn on the page on a basis of characteristics of the extracted fragments; and  
an output unit to eliminate image data of a page containing no image primary drawn and to output image data of a page containing an image primary drawn.
2. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the extracting unit further comprises generating unit to generate binary data from multi-valued image data, and the generating unit binarizes a pixel of interest on a basis of at least a relative difference in density between the pixel of interest and adjusting pixels.
3. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the determining unit determines whether or not the fragment is the image primary drawn on the basis of size of the extracted fragments.
4. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the determining unit determines that the fragments are a character image to be

processed in a case that the extracted fragments are arranged in a range on the order of the size of a character.

5. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the determining unit determines that the fragments are image data that is not to be processed in a case that the extracted fragment have characteristics corresponding to a filing hole of the original.

6. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the determining unit determines the fragments are image data that is not be processed in a case that the extracted fragments have characteristics that can appear in a margin of the original during reading,.